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Federalism, Old and New.

In Article XLIV. of the Federalist, JAMES MADISON, commenting on "the supposed dangers to State Covernments from the powers of the Union," says: "The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the Pederal Government are few and de-

med. These which are to remain in the State Governments are numerous and indefinite. The former will be exercised principally on external objects, as war, peace, negotiation and foreign commerce, with which last the power of taxation with for the most part, be connected. The powers reserved to the several States will extend to all the objects which, in the ordinary course of affairs, concern the lives, libertles and properties of the people and the internal order, improvement and prosperity

This is an opinion of the purposes and the scope of the Constitution expressed by one of the leading figures in its preparation.

Here is another opinion. It is the view of one of the profoundest students of American history. In his "Critical Period of American History" JOHN FISKE save:

" If the day should ever arrive when the people of the different parts of our country shall allow their local affairs to be administered by prefects sent from Washington, and when the self-government of the States shall have been so far lost as that of the departments of France, or even so far as that of the counties of England-on that day the progressive political career of the American people will have come to an end, and the hopes that have been built upon it for the future happiness and prospertly of mankind will be wrecked forever."

We simply quote these opinions. We do not assume to comment on them. Their adaptation to the present political situation is obvious-more particularly to the proposals of Commissioner GAB-FIELD.

Speculation and Stability in Cotton. There is something decidedly queer in the cotton situation. No more than a

casual review of the experience of the last year is necessary to indicate the complexity and the many contradictions in that important branch of industry. For many months a prevalent notion that the world supply of raw cotton was unequal to the demand produced a condition of semi-paralysis in the markets of this country and of Europe, and there

would see only an aggravation of that situation. Twenty cent cotton was predicted by men esteemed as authorities on the subject. It was confidently proclaimed that, at least, it would be a long time before any price below 10 cents would be seen in the cotton market. England and Germany organized societies and raised funds for the discovery and development of new cotton areas to avert the impending ruin of their cotton | plained frequently that the reputation of industries through shortage of supply within a few days of the close of the year raw cotton was sold, at interior points, at from 61/2 to 63/4 cents, and in New York quotations are now less than 7 cents, or one-half the price of a year ago.

The cotton areas of the United States control the price and supply the major part of the world's requirements of raw botton. The crop of 1898 was 11,199,994 bales: that of 1899 was 11,274,840 bales. These were regarded as so far beyond the market needs that prices dropped no 5 and 6 cents a pound. The crop of 1900 was about 2,000,000 bales short of the two preceding crops, and brices stiffened to 9 and 10 cents. In 1901 and 1902 it averaged 10,500,000 a year and prices dropped to 8 and 9 cents. In 1903 it was 10,727,559, and it was then that the market went into the air in terfor of a shortage which could only be met by the opening of new areas of cultivation.

In 1899, 11,274,840 bales glutted the narket. In 1903, a crop only 5 per cent. clow that of 1899 created a state of dire larm over world shortage. The crop f 1904 exceeds the crop of 1899 by only per cent., yet its volume drives the rice to a figure below the average for the decade of 1890 to 1900. Evidently ther the cotton market is an abnorhally sensitive and timid institution. rone to lose its head on scare rumors. scientific knowledge of world market nditions is lacking.

However difficult it might be to reduce the cotton business to a fairly definite basis of annual supply and demand, it does not seem impossible. Of course, the market is subject to fluctuation in both departments, but there is certainly a calculable foundation of averages and their annual increase. The total manufacture, domestic consumption and export of the United States, of England. Germany, France and other cotton manufacturing countries, are matters of official record. The number of yards of cotton goods annually produced, consumed and exported by each and by all. is ascertainable in detail for, probably, the last twenty-five years. Such a tabulation would seem to furnish a basis on which it might be determined that the 19.727.559 bales of 1903 need not frighten the market into fifteen cent cotton and predictions of cotton famine, and that the 12,162,000 bales of 1904 need not drive the planters into organized cooperation to hold the price up to a point of fair profit

for the producers. A call has been sent out for a meeting of the Southern Cotton Growers' Protective Association in New Orleans on Jan. 24-26. The call invites discussion

of these measures, among others: Financing the entire spot cotton business of the South; creating a bureau of statistics for the benefit of the producer: establishment of a cotton exchange In each State through which our cotton can be said direct to the manufacturers; organization quickly of all the cotton producers in each cotton growing

county; reduction of sotton acreage and use of mmercial fertilizers for 1905 of not less than 2 per cent .: adoption of a total warehouse system meet the practical demand of both farmers and bankers throughout the South: to inake New Or leans the leading cotton exchange in the United States; the formation of a close alliance between all the Southern agricultural organizations now is existence for mutual cooperation and protection."

In such organization there is a great possibility of an absolute monopoly whose operations might be made either vastly beneficial or endlessly pernicious. It might absolutely control and regulate both prices and supply. It is a plan which has been proposed many times and frequently discussed. Some day, probably, it will be put into effect.

Should it be undertaken, and its management, by means of central storehouses; regulate the supply to the market and establish a fairly fixed price, which would give a reasonable profit to growers while assuring to millmen a stability of prices which they could afford to pay, the cotton crop might be taken out of the domain of speculation. That is, a basis of general stability of prices might be established which would be of incalculable advantage to mills and to the general public. On the other hand, its power as a vast monopoly would be little short of appalling.

In the field of commercial enterprise no other influence is so disastrous as just such wildcat leaps in the price of raw material as those which have been seen in the cotton market during recent years. No business reason whatever has existed for five cent cotton in 1898, fifteen cent cotton in 1903 and seven cent cotton a year later. The difference between five cent cotton and fifteen cent cotton on an average crop is about \$500,000,000. The entire world would be the gainer from a stability of prices, on a basis, for example, of eight, nine and ten cent cotton for crops of 12,000,000 bales, 11, 000,000 and 10,000,000 bales. This would assure a liberal profit to growers and would not be unreasonable to consumers. If a trust of that kind could be organized and maintained, it would be worthy of public support and approval. Its principal opponents would be those whonow make their money by speculating in the staple.

Race Discrimination in New York. In the report of the transactions of the Police Department dated Dec. 13 and printed in yesterday's City Record this item deserves attention:

" On reading and filing reports of Capt. JAMES P WHITE, Forty-sixth precinct, and Inspector John WIBGAND, and finding of Board of Honor.

" Ordered, That Patrolman MARTIN MCNAMER Forty-sixth precinct, be and is hereby 'Com mended for bravery in rescuing a man attacked by a number of Italians at Third and Carroll streets Brooklyn, Sept. 15, 1904.

Other entries in the report deal with incidents in which parties of rowdies figured, but this is the only one where the nationality of the offenders is specified. "Disorderly boys" may have been was apprehension that the coming days of any race; "young thieves and truants" may be of native birth or foreign; an "insane man" wears no tag; "a number of persons" may have been Jews or gentiles, negroes or whites; the nationality of "four burglars" is not designated in the report. Only in one case is there a reference to the precise nationality of the alleged criminals.

Why is there this discrimination? The Italian residents of New York have comtheir countrymen suffers because whenextraction publicity is given to that fact while if an offender is of another race his nationality is not mentioned.

The rowdies from whom Policeman MCNAMEE rescued a man could not have been designated properly as Italians unless it was a uniform rule that the nationality of every offender should be given in the official report; but the omission of the nationality in all the other cases indicates that there is no such rule.

Peril in the Morocco Situation.

In a statement on the condition of affairs in Morocco in a London paper, Mr. ION PERDICARIS points out very opportunely the risk which France incurs in intervening in that country unless the situation is circumspectly and wisely handled.

The whole Mussulman world is at this moment agitated by a restless spirit. It only needs a spark to start a conflagration that may spread from the Atlantic to the gates of Lahore. The condition of Algeria and Tunis is far from satisfactory, and at this moment the French Government is sending an expedition against the religious reformer, El SENoussi, in the Sudan, under Col. Gour-AND, the administrator of the territories of Lake Tchad. A check or disaster to this force would soon be known all over North Africa and Egypt, and might easily bring about a situation that Mr. PERDICARIS, speaking from knowledge and long experience of the Moors, greatly fears.

Even in Egypt, where to outward appearance tranquillity reigns, there is always slumbering a feeling of discontent with infidel and alien rule, which Mussulman writers say could only have been imposed on them through the inentitude of Sultan ABDUL HAMID IT, and the "gang of miscreants," as they call them, by whom he is surrounded at Constantinople. On this subject a remarkable article appeared in a late number of Arafat, a Mussulman paper published in Cairo, under the heading "The Sublime Porte in Arabia." In it the writer, who signs himself "Asiaticus," gives free expression to the detestation in which the Arabs hold their Turkish rulers. Throughout Arabia disgrder reigns, and the whole diplomacy of the Bosphorus is described as consisting in turning one tribe against another, while the Turkish functionaries sent to govern them, men badly chosen, poorly paid and uncontrolled, rob and oppress the

people in every possible way. The reply to the protests of the Arabs by the official journals at Constantinople, says Arafat, is denunciation of them as rebels, heretics and traitors. Rebels, because they refuse to submit willingly to a detestable administration; heretics, because they desire to be governed in conformity with the Koran and reject the jumble of firmans and illegal decrees | mankind.

of the Sublime Porte; and traitors, because Turkish tyranny has driven som of them into the arms of Great Britain and its clever agents.

In conclusion, the article advises the Sultan and his Government to take warning by the results of the maladministration of the Sudan, whose inhabitants regarded the Egyptian functionaries as miscreants, just as the Arabs look upon the Turks now. Never, it says, would the Arabs, knowing the value of honor and liberty, have come to an agreement with a foreign Government against their own if the latter was just and guided by the law of Islam.

The general condition of the Mussulman world, therefore, appears to be little short of angrehy. As Mr. PERDICARIS says, it is unsafe for one Power to act at any point by itself, for there is danger of serious trouble if a man should arise in Islam capable of rallying to his standard leaderless and isolated communities which have a common religious but no political centre to which they can turn

Immigration Into the South.

A few days ago we commented on the plan of the Hon. FRANK P. SARGENT, Commissioner-General of Immigration, to distribute immigration throughout the country and to reduce the urban congestion. Mr. SARGENT also promised representatives of the passenger and immigration departments of certain Southern railroads to provide such additional facilities as may be necessary for at New Orleans. To draw immigration to the South is a purpose steadily kept in view by Southern railroad men and generally by all persons who are working for the agricultural and industrial development of the Southern States.

The pages of the Southern Farm Magasine give us glimpses of the activity with which investors and settlers are seeking the South or being sought by it. All Southern States feel the activity, and among some of them there is competition for the new blood and resources. A very few years ago Florida used to be regarded, erroneously no doubt, as one of the most hopelessly backward and forlorn of Commonwealths. Now it is not only a sort of winter colony, a land of luxury and paradise of the well to do, but it charms settlers as well as travellers. Its white population has nearly doubled in ten years, and the gain is of thrifty and solid citizens. Local real estate booms have had a temporary bad effect here and there, but there is a quiet, constant influx of "homeseekers," families that stay and buy farming lands and build. Speculation in the best land there and elsewhere may be expected, and one may be a little doubtful about the benefit, save to the dealer, of the "large deals" in delta land and other land that are reported. Moderate priced land owned by its cultivators is best for the farming and the general interest. There is plenty of such land, and the settlers are coming.

The levees built by the Government now protect against overflow the soil, rich with river eilt and decayed vegetation, of the so-called St. Francis Basin, in northeastern Arkansas and southeastern Missouri. The tract, some 175 miles long and from 25 to 35 miles wide, covers more than 2,000,000 acres. Drainage canals and railroads have been built in it. Land is being sold to Northern and

Eastern farmers at \$10 an acre. In Chariton county, Georgia, Just across the Florida line, Mr. P. H. Firz-GERALD, the founder of a colony of Westerners at Fitzgerald, is opening 500,000 acres to another colony. Four hundred colonists are waiting for a survey of their land Between 8,000 and 10,000 Westerners are expected to arrive before the spring. This turning back and diversion of the long natural stream of population from east to west will be interesting to the historian as well as the economist.

In South Carolina a colony of Danes is to be established at Roseland, ten miles from Aiken, a district of dairy farms and once famous for fruit. Small colonies of Italians, Scotchmen, Englishmen, Germans, farmers and artisans have also come to the Palmetto country.

Westerners, travelling on "homeseekers' " tickets, are making their way into Virginia and Maryland. Hungarians and Poles are settling in Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. Farmers from southern Indiana have taken a tract of land in Sunflower county, Mississippi. Mississippi will have a bureau of immigration at Liège, Belgium, where there is o be a world's fair in 1905, and will try to attract Belgian, Dutch and German farmers. Canada already has an immigration agent in Belgium.

And so on and on. Quietly immigration is finding the South.

An Illusion Destroyed.

The cabled description of the Tokio reception to Admirals Togo and KAMI-MURA will dispose very effectually of a prevalent notion that the Yankees of the East are stolid, self-contained, not given to manifesting their enthusiasm by howls of delight, cheers and similar demonstrations. They have been pictured as standing mute while their national heroes passed by. Dignified, silent, unmoved, a gathering of Flowery Kingdom patriots had been portrayed as being about as lively and noisy as a well conducted church congregation.

When Admirals Togo and KAMIMURA landed in Tokio, returning from their successful cruises, we are told that they found the streets jammed with vociferous and wildly enthusiastic crowds. The school children turned out, the citizens set off fireworks, the triumphant sailors rode beneath triumphal arches, and Japanese cheers welcomed and followed them. The way to their carriages was obstructed by the dense throng.

That is, the Mikado's people did very much as the people of any other country would have done under similar circumstances.

Are the Japanese, after all, like the rest of people? Perhaps they were once as different as the travellers represented them, but pow that they have gone to the front in civilization-or at least in civilized war they seem to have become very much like the rest of civilized

THE CURE FOR OVERPRODUCTION Declared to Be a Higher Wage Rate and

ncreased Home Consumption. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In your paper of Dec. 29 appears a review, by a Washington correspondent, of American Washington correspondent, of American export trade which invites comment because some of the conclusions drawn are out of line with the facts on which they are based. The writer recognizes that the United States suffers from a state of con-tinual overproduction. "While our people are generally employed and fairly prosperous," he says, "the fact remains comparatively few of our mills and fac-tories are operated to their full productive capacity." In another place he says that "the limit of our consuming power in its relation to our power of production has been reached, if it has not already been passed." The remedy, he concludes, is only to be found in more extensive markets outside our national boundary lines.

It seems almost superfluous to combat the theory that export figures are the true measure of national prosperity, in view o facts which are open to all. In the year 1900, for instance, the four great commer cial nations exported manufactured goods

England. . \$1,142,602,562 Germany..... 745,800,00

We see by this that the United States has very limited foreign markets, compared with other countries, notably England. But is England or Germany or France more prosperous than the United States? If so, why do the best and most enterprising of their people flock over here? In England the handling of the immigrants landing at the present time a great wall of distress is going up. The armies of the destitute flood the slums of her great cities. It s estimated by the Salvation Army that there are 100,000 unemployed people in London alone. Twenty-two per cent. of the people of England are said to be too poor to maintain themselves in a state of merely physical efficiency; yet England is the greatest commercial nation.

It stands to reason that foreign markets can never curs overproduction. The goods we export are not given away-they are exchanged for others. It is absurd to suppose that any nation can continue indefinitely to buy from us without selling to us in return. And if we merely exchange products, it is plain that the problem of overproduction is unsolved-we get back as much as we give.

A legitimate exchange of things of which we have too much for things which we lack constitutes a healthy state of trade. But for this kind of trade there need be no struggle. It has always come to us, as the writer of the article under discussion says, unsolicited.

The only market which has any real effect on overproduction is the home market. American made goods sent abroad bring us foreign made goods in return; but goods sold to our own people are consume and taken permanently out of the market. The superior prosperity of this country is due solely to the higher wages paid here, which make the United States the greatest market for manufactured goods in the world. In 1900 the consumption of manufactured goods in the same four countries was as follows:

Per Capita United States \$12,995,608,803 England 4.278,304,438 Germany 4.152.450.0

In that year average wages in this country were \$340 per year, as compared with an average of \$170 in Europe. Most writers on economics conceive the high wages paid in this country to be the cause of our small foreign trade. To cure overproduction, they maintain, we must have foreign markets; to get foreign markets, we must compete with the products of low wage content with lower wages. The advocates of this policy overlook two important points:

First, lower wages at home means a smalle home market; what we might gain abroad we would surely lose at home, besides lowering the standard of living of oui whole working population.

Second, it is not the low wage countries which excel on the economic field. If that was the case China, India and Japan would control the markets of the world with their inexhaustible supply of cheap labor. But the fact of the matter is that it is the high wage countries, with their labor saving machinery, which produce most cheaply If it was possible for the great low wage countries to use such machinery as we use in this country, it would be impossible for Europe or America to compete with

them. Fortunately, the use of highly developed machinery is impossible in a low wage country. Machinery is used only when i yields a profit to the employer. A mechanical device may save any amount of labor. but if the value of the labor saved is not greater than the incidental cost of operation-power, taxes and interest on invest ment-it cannot be run with profit. This limits the low wage country to primitive means of production, and gives the high wage country a great advantage in the prowe find that our exports of manufactures increased 70.73 per cent. between 1892 and 1902, showing that our high wages are not

hindrance to increased foreign trade. For the problem of overproduction, with its accompanying insecurity of employnent for both labor and capital, there is only one remedy-an increase in our home market by a higher wage rate for labor. There are approximately 10,000,000 wage workers in this country. A horizontal increase of even \$1 per week in their wages would give a total equal to the entire export trade of the country. This money would be spent at home; would furnish work for the unemployed, and keep capital which is at present idle employed profitably. It would mean more traffic on the railroads fewer strikes and lockouts, and less freindustrial panies. Incidentally, it would mean more comforts for the poor, a lower death rate in the tenements, and fewer out-of-work suicides.

WILLIAM G. LIGHTBOWN. NEW YORK, Dec. 30.

Longost Span Bridge.

From the Scientific American.

There is now under construction across the St. awrence at Quebec a cantilever bridge which when completed, will contain the longest span of any bridge yet erected, not even excluding the great cantilevers of the Forth Bridge in Scotiant. The structure consists of two approach spans of 210 feet each, two shore arms, each 500 feet in length, and a great central apan 1,800 feet in length.

The total length of the bridge is 4,220 feet, and The total length of the brings is shown that and although in extreme dimensions it does not compare with the Firth of Forth Bridge, which is about one mile in total length, it has the distinction of having the longest span in the world by 80 feet, the two cantilevers of the Forth Bridge being each

Bucephala.

Alexander had just built a city for his horse.
"I found." he said. "it was cheaper than betting Herein we may see to what expedients even the

THE DANGER TO OUR NAVY. Another Distinguished Naval Officer Urges the Meed of Meform.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir nany years I have been an admirer of THE Sun's editorial page, especially of its unsparing condemnation of all inefficiency. was therefore with extreme pleasure hat I read your editorial of the 24th inst., Reforms in the Navy Needed." I must confess to having often wondered why you did not tackle this particular subject. state of the navy is in great part due to this absence of intelligent oriticism from outside. Your correspondent is well within the truth in all he says. For years all line officers have been treated as the employees of Tellson's bank, so inimitably described by Dickens: "When they took a young man into Tellson's London house they hid him somewhere until he was old. They kept him in a dark place, like a cheese, until he had the full Tellson flavor and blue mould upon him. Then only was he permitted

The result is most natural. To-day old age has its withering grasp upon us. The line officers of the higher grades are tired. Going to sea becomes a necessary evil. So much time has to be put in at sea, and that is all there is to it. Reforms and improvements tending to efficiency are submitted to, not demanded. The main object of any system of promotion is to produce able Admirals, men recognized by the service as being proper commanders of fleets in time of war. No one will deny that our system is an utter failure in this respect. And yet there is only one lesson so far absolutely established by the Russo Japanese war, and that is that the wiping out of the Port Arthur fleet was due almost entirely to the inefficiency of the Russian Admirals.

That there is no attempt made to rid the service of incompetent officers is absolutely true. Men are promoted regardless of what they have done or failed to do on board ship. In the British Navy the severest punishment, next to dismissal from the service, is to be dismissed from your ship. With us, such a punishment is not recognized. On rare occasions an Admiral, losing patience, detaches an officer from his ship; but this officer, worse than useless on board jogs right along to the highest grade. Men are selected for positions on shore, but they go to sea simply as a matter of routine when their turn comes around.

A notable exception has lately been made in the choice of the next commander of the North Atlantic fleet; but this only emphasizes our lack of material for such commands. As a rule, any one is considered good enough for duty on board shipwhether as Executive Officer, Captain of Admiral; yet upon these men the discipline

of the ship depends. In consequence of this the navy affoat has become a mere side show to the navy ashore. The bureaus and shore stations are the end; the ships are simply a means to this end. Young line officers eagerly seek duty in the construction corps or as specialists in ordnance, torpedoes or en gineering. The drilling of men and hand-

ling of ships is irksome drudgery.

The result of all this must necessarily be humiliating disaster in our next war. The material has absorbed all our atten tion at the expense of the personnel. Togo's name is now in everybody's mouth. But who asks or who cares where the Japanes obtained their ships and guns? Money can buy these in lots of places; but money cannot buy efficient naval officers. The Japanese started in forty years ago to build up an efficient personnel, and to-day they ave the reward of their farsightedness.

We have a superb school at Annapolis but the midshipmen so carefully trained there will be between 45 and 50 years of age before reaching the grade of Lieuten ant, and after that push right along to Real Admiral. It seems impossible that Congress should be aware of this state of affairs and not remedy it.

The late Rear Admiral Taylor fully realized the gravity of the present situation The President, the Secretary of the Navy and the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation (and we are fortunate in having such an able successor to Admiral Taylor) are also aware of the need for reform. Will they succeed in obtaining it? That is a question for Congress. The "stand patters" of the service pooh-poon the idea of anything

being done. This ambition killing condition is enough to drive one wild at times.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30. Japanese Colonies in Texas.

From the Washington Post. "One of the most interesting settlement in the State of Texas is that of the Japs, be-tween Houston and Galveston," said A. D. McDonough of Brownwood, Tex. "The Japa there are mostly a very intelligent class of nerchants from the Mikado's kingdom and have come over with some money to invest colony of some 100 of them have gone into the rice industry there and are making a great success of it. They have built their homes and have one of the best rice plantations in the best rice country in the South Contrary to the general belief, they circulate their money freely and add to the properity of the community, though, of course they find opportunity to send a part of it across the Pacific.

But just here is the point. Their coming

"But just here is the point. Their coming has been an experiment, put to a severe test during these past few months, and has been so eminently successful that they are nowplanning to swell the colony to a much greater number. The war in the Far Fast has nothing to do with their coming, as they have capital and merely wish to spend it where it will yield the most return. At Del Rie, in western Texas, another colony has started, and the land there is being developed through processes of irrigation. In both places the Japs are the most industrious and least dissipated elements in the community, and if they should remain permanently would be a worthy addition to the economic value of that section."

The Jews and the Public Schools.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your Jewish correspondent "F. E. L." gives voice to a com-plaint which we brought to the attention of the plaint which we brought to the attention of the board of Education several years ago. I am in a position to state officially that the teacher who directed his child to study the poem "Christ Our Lord," &c., was acting in direct opposition to the letter and spirit of an order that was promulgated by Dr. Maxwell, at our request, more than a year

While on this subject, will you permit me to say that there seems to be a misconception in the minds of some of those who have criticised our recen "warning," upon the question of Jewish ch attending Christmas gatherings in mission &c.! The issue has been clouded by several of our critics, but our contention is that we are entitled to regard religious observances from our point of view, without regard to the opinion which others may form of the correctness of our view. We stand for Orthodox Judaism. and, speaking in behalf of Orthodox Jews, we contend that in America we are entitled "freely to enjoy our faith."

Yesterday it came to my knowledge that a public chool teacher argued with her pupils that my point of view and direction to those children, who are also pupils attending my religious classes, was wrong. I shall take up that question elsewhere and only wish to say here that we consider that the public school (the advantages of which are open to all children without regard to their religion) is not the place for theological discussion.

Secretary Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of United States and Canada. NEW YORK, Dec. 28.

of With His Blide! Midas had just rendered his decision.
"Here's where I have you skinned," said Marsyas.
"Not on your life," said Apollo; "here's where I

VENEZUELA AND ITS PRESIDENT. A Picture of Gen. Castro as Brawn by

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN -Sir: Castro fixed Venezuela, as it stands to-day before a censorious world, may appear as a mysterious conundrum to the superficial observer of the "frenzied politics" of Spanish-American countries. By the thoughtful student who enjoys to probe all alarming facts as they reveal themselves on the scrutinizing American table, however, they are viewed as a matter of course, or as a natural sequence of a de-

If there is any community to the south of Mexico where civic attainments or superior merico where civic attainments of intellect do not carry any weight at present, it is found in that magic land of immortal Bolivar and the swift llanero. I do not mean to say that there are not intellectual people in Venezuela, and that a cultivated mind does in Venezuela, and that a cultivated mind does not have any chance there. On the contrary, its literateurs are of the brightest in Spanish-American letters; but they do not get their due reward in the political field. They find their recompense in exilatom, for to indulge in up to date thoughts is considered an abominable crime under the régime of Castro.

A penniless mountainer with a handful of A penniless mountaineer with a handful of

desperate followers and courage enduch to rise up in rebellion falls upon a hamlet of an interior State. His real or funded grievenous and subversive cry against the established dictatorship find a ready echo in the hardened hearts of all the opportunists, who are always willing to throw in their unstable lot under the magnetic flag of the overpowering new leader. From town to village and from vil-lage to ofty, tramping all the way Caracss-ward bound, this hybrid multitude goes on, increasing in numbers, now and then fighting desultory small engagements against the un-lisciplined hordes buried to detain its progress by the Man at the Palace, until it knocks at the doors of the old capital city. Then come the pourpariers, after a show of re-sistance; a President cone enriched out of the country by the first steamer that leaves at La Guayra, and another one installed with pompous ceremony at the Casa Amarilla.

There you have the typical picture of Presi-

dent Castro of Venezuela and his meteorio his unsteady Government practices, conflict-ing with the sacred tenets of the illustrious Monroe, he stands to-day as an unwelcome addition to the continental harmony of the Western Powers. When I remarked to a level-headed Porto Rican friend, Mr. Lorenzo Mercado - who, by the way, has incurred the wrath of the Venezuelan oppressor to the extent of expropriation, imprisonment and expulsion from his vast domains—how in the world could a man like Castro, almost illiterate, get along apparently nicely with nis necessarily educated Ministers, especially in those matters pertaining to the high domain of administrative intelligence, he answered: "Why, as those poor fellows live in mortal fear of the frantic machetero, they follow the example of the devoted horseman with his spirited animal: They pat him on the swell head while at the same time evading the danger of being the victims of a deadly kick from their insolent master."

As I understand the spirit of the recent atterances relative to the Monroe Dootrine, it does not follow that the United States i going to become the international policeman and debt collector of the Western Hemisphere. It does imply that the American Government is perfectly aware of the increasing dangers inherent in the enlarged rights and responsibilities by reason of the ecessary expansion and national enterprises of universal consequences.

There is the Panama Canal, for instance. Supposing that weak and impecunious Colombia, its nearest neighbor, gets into an international entanglement with her creditor Italy, through the old Cerutti claim, and that the latter Power, as a war measure, takes Sam stand in awe of the certain neutralization of this mammoth undertaking, that cost him millions and millions, and be stationary in the presence of the lessened influence caused by the close proximity of an ambitious European newcomer

The actual Administration is living up to the American exigencies of a concordant continental policy. The Monroe Doctrine, as interpreted to-day, remains completely intact, as it was formulated by its patriotic creator and upheld successively by Adams and Cleveland. It cannot in justice be said that, in case of a conflict between the United States as a nation and the delinquent South a Rooseveltized great Republic and a Castroized Venezuela. It will be a contest between internal self-respect and international im-A NATIVE OF GUAM.

NEW YORK, Dec. 80. A Japanese on the Hara-kiri.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The prevalent belief that "the Japanese are insensible to pain" is far from true. Their seeming insensibility to pain comes from centuries of training, not from their nature, because it is quite incompatible with

their sensitive nature.

To disprove the fallacy, let us examine the very much talked of hara-kirl-an old Japanese way to take one's own life by disembowelling. I have so far met no observation and no suggestion of the value which the hara-kirl affords, even in the writings of men well informed on Japanese life.
We may find elaborate articles on hara-kiri in Mitford's well considered book, "Tales of Japan": but hitherto and still, outside of Old Japan": Japan, the hara-kiri is derided as the barbaric mode for a barbaric people to take their own lives. Who has ever thought of the value of that per-formance, executed in the calmest manner possible. and even with a last smile at the subilme moment

of human tragedy?

Even to take away one's life almost insensibly by gas or almost instantly by the revolver requires courage and determination. The fortitude and courage that are necessary for the hara-kiri come from the training of centuries of a special class of Japanese.
The spirit that can perform the hara-kirl must

be the same spirit which we witness on the battle field, calm and uncomplaining, which has given rise to the statement that "the Japanese are insen-NEW YORK, Dec. 30.

The Occupation of the Horse Not Gone. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: So much has been said about autos taking the place of horses. butcher, the grocer, &c., bave delivered supplies dur ing the recent snows without sleighs and horses?
How could any one in the country have got to
the trains? Wheele could not pull through, and
sleighs only could. As for autos—whether electriene or with any other motor-not one put its nose out of doors; if it did, horses pulled it back into the garage.
We are not yet at the horseless age, and I doubt

VEBONA, N. J., Dec. 20. Gauged by Dr Hale.

From the Ram's Horn. An Oregon newspaper man was once travelling in the back country of Oregon, and, going to a little inn for lodging, was surprised to see a large picture of Dr. Hale on the wall. The woman of the house explained it thus: "Well, you see, a good many trangers come here and want me to keep 'em, and I don't know anything about 'em; but if they know Edward Everett Hale's picture I know they're good for something, and I let 'em stay."

Nobility of Will Redeliffe. From the Jemestown Gazette,
Will Radeliffe, one of the most successful and
copular farmers this county has ever seen, called in yesterday and left ye editor a line shote for a Christmas present. We have always felt the warmest and truest friendship for Will, who is one of those self-made, noble characters of those self-made, noble characters one sees seldom in these parts. Our right hand, Will.

Art and Time. Great Author-I wish you wouldn't listen to me. Wife-Why, what do you mean? G. A .- I am talking so much that I am keeping

The January number of Harper's Monthly Magarine contains an unusual number of full page illustrations in color and tint. Prof. Hugo de Vries tells about a new conception of the origin of species, and Prof. Lounsbury of Yale writes another delightful paper on spelling. Thore are descriptive articles by Edmund Gosse, Mrs. Van Vorst, Arthur Symons and Prof. J. Bassett Moore. Among the subbars of the clean short stories are Mr. W. authors of the eight short stories are Mr. W. D. Howells, Mr. Tarkington, Mrs. Wilkins-Freeman and Mrs. M. R. S. Andrews. There are seven poems.

LARGER HOME FOR BROOK CLUB. Demand for an Always Open House Proved

to He Large. McKim, Mead & White, architects, have filed plans for the remodelling of the story and basement private dwelling at 7 East Fortieth street into a clubhouse for the Brook Club, of which Center Hitchcock is president, and which has overgrown its present home at 6 East Thirty-fifth

The proposed new quarters set well back beyond the street building line so as to assure privacy to the clubbo

to assure privacy to the clubhouse. The building has a 25 foot frontage and a depth of 65 feet, with a rear extension.

This extension will be removed and a new front extension erected, a part of which will be constructed as a latticed veranda porch with an ornamental glass dome. The present façade of the building will be removed and a new one of colonial design built. The first floor of the reconstructed edifice will be fitted as a reading room, with a cafe in the rear. On the second floor will be the writing and committee rooms, and also a card room. The upper floors are to be finished as sleeping quarters, with baths.

The cost of the necessary improvements is estimated at \$15,000.

ENGLAND AND IRELAND.

The Sympathy of the Irish Necessary for the Salvation of England.

TO THE EDITOR OF TARE SUN—Sir: You quote Capt. Mahan as saying that if Ireland were free Eggland would have a hostile nation in her rear. That reminds me of what Napoleon remarked when he had sold Louistana to the United States. He declared that he had ereated a maritime power which would one day humble England's pride. We have become a greater power than Napoleon ever dreamed of. The Americans who were hos-tile to England in his time have been reenforced by millions of Irish, who hate her more than those Americans ever did. But we have not made it our mission, as perhaps we should, to humble our mission, as perhaps we should to humble Bugland's pride. Our thoughts are occupied with our own prosperity and advancement, and we simply smile at the self-esteem of others. If England's

with our interests we give it no thought If Ireland were free her haired for England would soon be buried under more important concerns. noon be buried under more important concerns.

Hostility is rightly foremost in her thoughts as declare that sentiment must not interfere with her deciare that senument must not interiors with her prosperity. If Ireland were a nation she would soon think of what she could sell to England and not of the harm that she could do to her age-long oppressor. Capt. Mahan's prediction would undoubtedly meet the fate of Napoleon s.

If we had been defeated in our Revolutionary Warms would have fought another, and would have

pride interferes with our progress, that pride will

we would have fought another, and would have continued the struggle till we were successful. Our success in that war was England's good fortune. longer conflict, with the bitterness of early de ild have bred a hatred for England here at which she would now tremble. That batred added to the spirit of the Irish would spell the down-fall of the British Empire. England about find a sobering lesson in the fact

that she now sees her fortunes linked with those of a nation which she regarded only with hostility till a very recent date. The day is not far distant when she will find that unless she has the sympathy of the Irish race ruin will face her scattered pos-sessions and her far flung battle line. Let her talk she pleases about the Anglo-Saxons standing shoulder to shoulder. She is foolish to think that friendship is stronger than hatred. She is mad to imagine that any cultivation of Anglo-Americans

If she can see the light that is given, she may yet Empire than did any of its statesmen. T, J. R. NEW YORK, Dec. 30.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It would be very bad for England to let Ireland go free, but it would be far worse for Ireland. If England should let Ireland go out of her possession it would not be one year before some great Power like Germany. France or Russia would send a fleet over and take Ircland, for the Irish people would have no army or navy to defend themselves. With a strong leet in the Irish Sea England would soon fall into

Oh, no. England will never let Ireland go. Even fight so much among themselves that some of these reat Powers would take the Island from them If Ireland were free there would be nothing but religious fights. How is it now on St. Patrick's

or on the 12th of July? TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The violent odthirsty letter in this morning's Sch from Mr. Murray, an Irishman, shows that Eng-land is not far wrong in holding on to Ireland. th a letter will make people believe that Ir

men are really all wild.

That is the curse of Ireland. Instead of helping it, Mr. Murray and his kind do it only harm. NEW YORK, Dec. 80.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The letter o day in THE SUN from Mr. Murray shows the feeling of most Irishmen.
Why not let them be free and get rid of the bother. It will be only a few years when they will be fighting among themselves and eating each other up, and

among themselves and carried finally begging to be taken back.

A. Bowland, NEW YORK, Dec. 36. A. BOWLAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Little old Ireland is not yet exterminated, but still lives to be the goose that lays the golden egg for dear old England. That's the kernel of the nut; why, Ireland will never be allowed her freedom. England must hold the purse strings. Britain's mighty navy has got to be kept up, even if Ireland and India

have to be taxed to death to do it. A mixed commission of Englishmen, Scotchmen and Irishmen proved conclusively several years ago that Ireland was overtaxed, but nothing ever came of it. Why? Because "they can take who have the power, and they may keep who can." Irishmen are not indulging in any Utopian dreams. They know they have to make the best of a bad job. They are willing to undertake by themselves. without outside help, the work for the regeneration of their country. They are not begging liberty as a gift from England, but will labor for it with true Irish persistency until they win as great an mint of freedom and legislative independence

as Canada and Australia enjoy. WILLIAM L. DOOLEY. BROOKLYN, Dec. 30.

Odd Railway Rule in Switzerland. From the Louisville Courier-Journal.
"When we reached Switzerland," said the tourist, "we found in the railway stations, alongside of the ticket office machines

alongside of the ticket office machines. for measuring the height of children. I said to the agent at Geneva:

"A half ticket for my little girl."

"Isn't she too tall? the man asked. 'Let her step on the measurer, please."

"My daughter's height was duly taken. It was four feet five.

"All right,' said the agent. 'She passes after all. "All right, said the agent. 'She passes after all.'
"Then the man explained to me that on account of innumerable disputes over the age of children half fares were now sold in Switzerland according to height instead of according to age. Children under three feet travelled free. Those between three feet and four feet six paid half fare. Those over four feet six paid full fare.

"The new rule is a good one,' said the agent. 'We have no more disputes. The children are measured at the ticket office, and that is the end of the matter."

Veneration of Lincoln at the South.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In your column yesterday headed "Books and Their Makers" you say, in speaking of Mr. Dizon's forthcoming book, that "the remarkable feature of the story is its portrayal of Lincoln as the friend of the conquered South," and add that "Mr. Dizon will no control the configuration of the conception of the charge of the conception of the charge. doubt be criticised for his conception of the char-acter of Lincoln; but he believes his embodimen of the character to be in accordance with the new spirit which has taken the place of the old bitterness During my experience of more than twenty years

as a travelling salesman in the South I have ob-served a growing conviction on the part of the peo-ple of that region that Lincoln was the best friend the South ever had. I have been repeatedly fold by people in all parts of Dixle that this was so. Some years ago, in a vaudeville show in New Orleans, pictures of celebrated men were thrown on a screen. The loudest applause of the evening on a screen. The loudest applause of the evening greeted the portrait of Lincoln. People down there realize that had Lincoln lived the reconstruction period would not have been the bor

NEW YORK, Dec. 80.

Invasion of Widowers. Galestown correspondence Sharptown Herald. The widowers are still visiting our town and we believe they mean business. As many as have been down in their sieighs since the Our young men have to take a back sea